

FOLK DANCES IN INDIA

Parcham Classes

LADAKH

- **Jabro** - Done by Changpas. Integral part of Losar (Tibetan New Year)
- **Cham** - Component of Buddhist celebrations in Ladakh
- **Shondol** - Royal dance of Ladakh; (Guinness book of world records as the largest Ladakhi dance on the occasion of the annual **Naropa Festival**.)
- Spao, Koshan, Lharna, Surahi Dance



JABRO



CHAM



SHONDOL

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

- **Rauf** – by women folk of the Kashmir valley
- Damali/Dhambali - By men; Fading away except special occasions of few Sufi saints
- Dumhal - By men of Wattal tribe
- Hikar
- **Hafiza, Kud, Mandjas**



RAUF



DAMALI



DUMHAL

HIMACHAL PRADESH

- **Charba** - during Dussehra
- **Chham** - by Buddhist monks
- Thoda - based on martial arts, dance of archery
- **Nati, Dangi, Chapeli, Jhora, Jhali, Jhamakhra**
- **Namgen**



NATI



DANGI

UTTARAKHAND

- **Bhotia Dance**, Dandala, **Chamfuli**, Dhusaka and Dhurang, Badra Nati
- **Chholia Dance** - by boys and men at marriage processions
- **Pandava dance** - during Dussehra and Deepawali
- Tharu dance - to welcome newly-married couple
- **Chanchari** - related to Garhwal and Almora region
- Jhoda dance - specially during Holi
- Hurkiya baul - community dance during sowing season
- **Shotiya, Langvir Nritya**



Chholia



Chanchari



Pandava

PUNJAB

Bhangra

Giddha – Female counterpart of male bhangra

Jhoomar – by tibial Sikhs. Harvest dance. Movement of arms most important. Brought in India by traders from Balochistan

Kikkli

Karhi, Sammi, Jindua, Dandass, Viyahula Giddha



Bhangra



Giddha



Kikkli

HARYANA

- **Loor** – by girls
- Phag – by agricultural folk
- Gugga – devotional – Gugga Pir
- Jhumar, Daph, Dhamal, Khorla



LOOR

UTTAR PRADESH

- **Raslila** – around Radha Krishna and Gopis
- Nautanki, Kajri
- Dadra – semi classical form; popular in coutesans of Lucknow region
- **Charkula**



Raslila

MADHYA PRADESH

- **Jawara** – harvest dance, Bundelkhand region. Includes balancing Jawar basket on head.
- **Matki** – women solo dance – balancing earthen pots on head. Variants – Aada Nach, Khada Nach
- Phul Pati – unmarried girls
- Grida, Charkula



Jawara



Matki

RAJASTHAN

- **Ghoomar** – Initially by women of Bhil tribe
- **Kalbeliya** – moves similar to serpents. 'Been' popular instrument. Inscribed in 2010 on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
- **Terah Taali, Kachhi Ghodi, Chari, Gair, Kathputli, Neja, Jhulan Leela, Jhuma, Ghapal, Suisini, Bhavai**



Ghumar



Kalbeliya



Kachhi Ghodi

GUJARAT

- **Garba** – during Navratra; Garba refers to 'Garbha Deep' – earthen pot with holes in which lamp is lit and women dance around in a circle
- **Dandiya Ras** – Sticks used; depicts mock fight between Durga and Mahishasur
- Bhavai , Tippani Juriun, Hudo
- **Padhar dance**



Garba



Dandiya Ras

MAHARASHTRA

- **Lavani**,
- **Koli** – by Koli fisher folk
- **Lezim**, Gafa, Nakata, Dahikala, Dasavtar or Bohada
- **Tamasha**



Lezim



Lavani

GOA

- **Tarangamel** – during Dussehra & Holi. Use of rainbow like costumes and colorful flags
- **Fugdi** – in Konkan region, during festivals by women
- **Dhangar** – during Navratri
- **Dekhni, Dhalo, Kunbi**, Romta Mel, Corredinho, Bhandap, Ghode Modni, Ranmale, Goff, Dashavatara



Fugdi



Dekhni

BIHAR

- Jat-Jatin** – especially in Mithila region. Represents affection and quarrel of married couple
- Bidesia** – on social evils
- Jumari** – similar to Gujarati garba
- Fagua, Paniki, Bakho-Bakhain, Biraha**
- Sohar** – on child birth
- Jhijiya** - for rain



Jat-Jatin

JHARKHAND

- Paika** , Saraikella Chhau
- Mundari Dance** – usually to celebrate newly married, Mundari tribe
- Damkach Jhumta, Damkach**
- Janani Jhumar** – during cultivation
- Mardana Jhumar** – after harvest
- Karam Naach** – Kadam Tree worship, Chhota Nagpur Plateau
- Jhika, Danga, Baroa**
- Jadopatiya**



Mardana Jhumar



Karam Naach



Mundari Dance

CHHATTISGARH

- **Gaur Maria** - men & women of Bison Horn Maria tribe. Imitates movement of Bison.
- **Raut Naach** – by Yadav community, during Diwali
- Panthi – by Satnami Community, devotees of Guru Ghasidas
- Saila, Sua, Gendi



Gaur Maria



Raut Nacha



Panthi

ODISHA

Chhau

- Sangeet Natak Academy recognises 8 classical dances, while Ministry of Culture recognises Chhau dance also in that list.
- Semi classical with **martial**, tribal and **folk** traditions
- Originates from **Chhaya** meaning **shadow**. Vigorous martial movements. Usually mask in used and based on mythological stories. 3 main styles:
 - Mayurbhanj Chhau – Odisha
 - Saraikella Chhau – Jharkhand
 - Purulia Chhau – West Bengal
- Got inscribed in UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010



ODISHA

Paika – **Martial folk dance of Southern Odisha**. Word Paika signifies Battle

Danda-Jatra (Danda Nata) – one of oldest folk arts of India. Only by males. Pray Goddess Kali and Lord Shiva during Danda period

Dalkhai – mostly during Dussehra

Munari, Savari, Ghumara, Jhumar

Nachni, Gotipua



Danda-Jatra



Paika

WEST BENGAL

- **Gambhira**, Kirtan Dance, **Alkap**, Dhali, Jatra, Domni, Dhunachi, Purulia **Chhau**
- **Kalikapatadi**, **Nachni**



Purulia Chhau



Alkap

TELANGANA

- **Perini Sivatandavam** – typical war dance by males
- **Burrakatha**/ Jangam Katha – dance narration
- **Chindu Bhagvatam**
- **Dappu Nritya**, **Lambadi**, Mayuri
- Gusadi – by Gondulu tribes
- Tholu Bommalata – shadow puppet
- **Bathukamma**



Perini Sivatandavam



Lambadi

ANDHRA PRADESH

- **Burrakatha**/ Jangam Katha – dance narration
- **Butta Bommalu** – Butta means basket toys. Dancers wear toy like masks. West Godavari district.
- **Kolattam**/ Kolannalu - Stick dance
- **Andhra Natyam**, **Veera Natyam** (veerabhadra)
- Mathuri – by Mathuri tribe of Adilabad district
- Garalu, Bathkampa (marriages), Bhamakalpam, Lambadi, Dhimsa, Dappubagham



Burrakatha



Andhra Natyam



Kolattam

KARNATAKA

- **Yakshagana** - traditional theatre form of dance drama based on mythological stories and Puranas
- **Dollu Kunita** – Kunita means ritual dance. By shephard community called Kuruba
- **Pata Kunita** – Mysore region. Religious dance by men. Use of long bamboo poles decorated with ribbons (pata)
- Suggi Kunita, Puja Kunita (Bangalore)
- Veeragase, **Bhootha Aradhane**, Kamsale (Mysore)
- **Bedara Vesha (Hunter dance), Bolak-aat**



Yakshagan



Kunita

KERELA

Mudiyettu (मुडीयेट्ट)

- Ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala
- Based on mythological tale of a battle between the goddess Kali and the demon Darika



UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010

युनेस्को की मानवता की अमूर्त सांस्कृतिक विरासत की प्रतिनिधि सूची

Mayilattam – Kerala & Tamil Nadu. Mayil means peacock (peacock dance)

Kummi – Kerala & Tamil Nadu. By women during Pongal & festivals. No music, dance on Rhythmic clapping.

Kaikottikali – temple dance at Onam to celebrate harvest

Padayani – martial dance in temples of South Kerala. Padayani means rows of Infantry/soldiers. Dancers wear huge masks (Kolam).

Kolkali-Parichakali – martial dance in South Kerala & Lakshadweep. Kol- stick, Paricha – shield. Enact fight sequence with mock weapons

Theyyam, Koodiyattam, Oppana, Ottam Thulal, Velakali

Thullal

Margamkali (ancient Indian round dance of the St. Thomas Christians community)

Mayilattam



Padayani



Kummi

TAMIL NADU

- **Mayilattam, Kummi, Bommai Attam** (Puppet Show)
- **Thol Pavai Koothu** – 400 year old art, Deerskin/goat skin puppets perform this dance
- **Karakattam** - Rain goddess Mariamman is praised
- **Puliyattam** (Tiger dance)
- **Poikkal Kudirai Aattam** (dummy horse dance)
- **Kai Silambu Attam**, Devaraattam, Parai Attam, Kavadi attam, Oyilattam
- **Paampu attam** (Snake dance)



Pavai Koothu



Karakattam



Parai Attam

PUDUCHERRY

Garadi dance : In this dance form, dancers make movements and postures of that of a monkey.

LAKSHADWEEP

Lava dance

SIKKIM

- **Singhi Chham** (Snow Lion Dance) – tribute to Kanchenjunga peak
- **Chu Faat** – Chu means snow range, Faat means worship
- **Yak Chham**, Richunma, Maruni



Singhi Chaam



Yak Chham

ASSAM

- **Bihu** – men & women in group. Rapid hand movement.
- **Bagurumba** (Butterfly dance) – Bodo community
- **Deodhani** – worship of the snake goddess **Manasa**
- **Bhor Tal Nritya**, **Jhumur** (tea folks), **Natpuja**, **Bichhua**, **Hobjanai**



Bihu



Bagurumba

MEGHALYA

- Laho, Shad Suk Mynsiem, Baglaa, Nongkrem Dance, Wangala Dance (100 Drums)



Laho



Nongkrem



Wangala

TRIPURA

- Bijhu - Bijhu means 'Chaitra-Sankranti'-denotes end of Bengali calendar year
- Garia – for happy harvest
- Lebang Boomani, Hojagiri, Hik-Hak



Hojagiri

MIZORAM

- Cheraw Dance – very old, bamboo sticks used
- Zangtalam, Sarlamkai/Solakia, Chailam



Cheraw Dance

MANIPUR

- Thang Ta – Martial dance. Thang – Sword, Ta - spear
- Pung Cholom or Dhol Cholom (Drum Dance)
- Luivat Pheizak Dance
- Shim Lam Dance (fly dance)
- Rakhal, Nat Rash, Maha Rash, Raukhat



Luivat Pheizak Dance



Shim Lam Dance



Thang Ta



Pung Cholom

NAGALAND

- Chang Lo (Sua Lua), Khamba Lim
- Rangma (bamboo dance) – war dance of Nagas
- Zeliang, Khaiva
- Aaluyattu



Chang Lo



Zeliang

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- **Aji Lamu**, Chalo, Hiirii Khaniing, Popir, Ponung, **Pasi Kongki**, Rekham Pada, Roppi
- **Bardo Chham**, **Ponu Yoksi**, **Lion & Peacock Dance**



Aji Lamu

Classical Dance Forms

List of Classical dances in India	State of Origin
Kathak	Uttar Pradesh
Odissi	Odisha
Sattriya	Assam
Manipuri	Manipur
Kuchipudi	Andhra Pradesh
Mohiniyattam	Kerala
Kathakali	Kerala
Bharatnatyam	Tamil Nadu

PYQ

Siddhendra Yogi, a doyen of the _____ dance form, was lauded as Adi Guru.

1. Kuchipudi
2. Kathakali
3. Bharatanatyam
4. Kathak

Correct answer : 1. Kuchipudi

Which dance performed by Buddhists to ward off evil spirits, is a dance form of Himachal Pradesh.

- 1.Chham
2. Natya
3. Dham
4. Gogra

Correct answer : 1.Chham

PYQ

_____ is a group folk dance of Sikkim performed in honour of Mount Khangchendzonga, the guardian deity of the Sikkimese people.

1. Zo-Mal-Lok
2. Tendong Lo Rum Faat
3. Chu-Faat
4. Kinchum-Chu-Bomsa

Correct answer : 3. Chu-Faat

Which tribe of Pakistan performs a traditional dance form called 'Waziri Dance'?

1. Sindhi
2. Baloch
3. Pashtun
4. Brahuīs

Correct answer : 3. Pashtun

In which state is Ponu Yoksi, a sword-like instrument, used during ceremonial dances performed by priests?

1. Uttar Pradesh
2. Himachal Pradesh
3. Arunachal Pradesh
4. Madhya Pradesh

Correct answer : 3. Arunachal Pradesh

Parcham Classes